

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/500,140
Amendment filed July 10, 2008
Reply to OA dated March 17, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 3 and 6-9 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1, 4, 5 and 10, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of forming a coating film on a substrate vehicle body comprising the steps of:

(i) coating the substrate vehicle body with a thermosetting and photocurable clear coating composition to form a wet coating film,

(ii) heating the wet coating film to semicure the coating film, and at 70°C to 160°C for 10 to 20 minutes to obtain a semicured coating film having a hardness between 2B to H on the pencil hardness scale,

(ii') grinding and polishing the semicured coating film, and

(iii) irradiating the semicured coating film with ultraviolet light having a wavelength of 200 to 450 nm at a dosage of 500 to 1,500 mJ/cm² for 3 to 60 seconds to cure the coating film;

wherein the clear coating composition comprises a resin containing one or more radical-polymerizable unsaturated groups and one or more thermosetting functional groups per molecule (A), a crosslinking agent (B), a photopolymerization initiator (C), and an organic solvent (D).

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Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A method of forming a coating film according to claim [[2]]
1, wherein the coating composition comprises, per 100 parts by weight of the ~~thermosetting and photocurable resin component (A)~~ resin containing one or more radical-polymerizable unsaturated groups and one ore more thermosetting functional groups per molecule (A), about 10 to about 60 parts by weight of the crosslinking agent (B) and about 0.1 to about 10 parts by weight of the photopolymerization initiator (C).

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A method of forming a coating film according to claim [[2]]
1, wherein the coating composition comprises the organic solvent (D) in such an amount that the coating composition has a solids content of about 20% to about 90% by weight.

Claims 6-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A method of forming a coating film according to claim [[9]]
1, wherein the substrate to be coated is an automobile body.

Claim 11 (Original): A vehicle body on which a coating film is formed by the method of forming a coating film according to claim 1.

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Claim 12 (Original): An automobile body on which a coating film is formed by the method of forming a coating film according to claim 1.